



# DIRECTOR ALFONSO CUARÓN TALKS 'GRAVITY'

BULLOCK AND CLOONEY FILM WEIGHED HEAVY AT THE BOX OFFICE. PAGES 17-19

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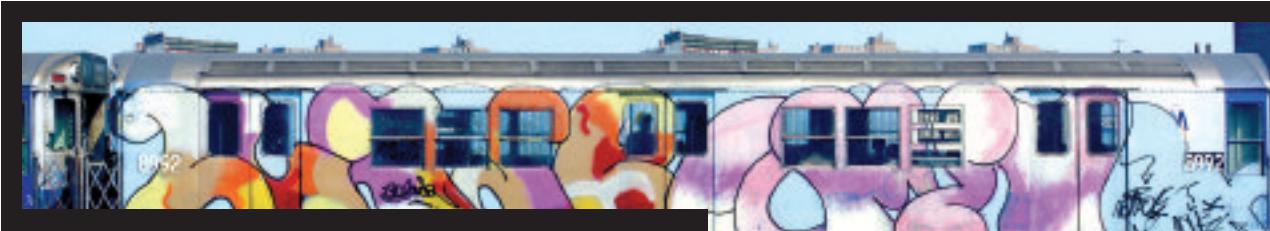


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# Two bikers charged in attack on driver

**Hit the brakes.** Robert Sims and Reginald Chance were arrested over the weekend for their part in a motorcycle gang assault on an SUV driver, police said. **Race to finish line.** The case has captivated the nation's attention. PAGE 02



## PIONEERS AND



## POSEURS

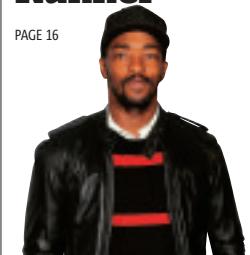
PAGE 02



Rare and classic New York City graffiti art will be on display at "Write of Passage" on October 19 at Red Bull Studios. / COURTESY OF HENRY CHALFANT

**Mackie  
speeds up  
in 'Runner  
Runner'**

PAGE 16



**A shot at  
preventing  
the flu**

PAGE 21



**Jets have big  
opportunity  
tonight**

PAGE 27



# 1

## NEWS

### Quoted

"We are here today to demand the House take action."

Steven Choi, executive director of the New York Immigration Coalition, to a crowd of thousands that marched across the Brooklyn Bridge to rally for immigration reform



Top 3

### Trending online at Metro.us

**1** 'VIDEO: Hugh Jackman schools former student on the red carpet'

**2** 'VIDEO: Groom cashes in on slap bet at his wedding'

**3** "Jogging" sensation Joe Salter runs marathons backwards while juggling'



Classic photos from Henry Chalfant of New York subway train graffiti will be on display at the "Write of Passage" exhibition at Red Bull Studios. / COURTESY OF HENRY CHALFANT

# Historian talks Banksy and a 'Write of Passage'

**Changing graffiti.** A graffiti historian says Banksy doesn't fit the mold of traditional NYC street artists.

While many New Yorkers are scouring the city for signs of — or signs left by — mysterious UK-based street artist Banksy, who has announced he will use the streets of the five boroughs as his canvas for the month of October, at least one man is unimpressed.

Graffiti historian Sacha Jenkins doesn't think Banksy should be classified as a graffiti artist.

"What Banksy has in common with 'blue collar graffiti' — or what people inside of the culture would call writing — is what he's doing is illegal. He's applying his sensibility or his artwork onto surfaces that don't belong to him," Jenkins said.

But, he continued, "that's where the relationship dies."



Graffiti historian Sacha Jenkins says Banksy doesn't fit in with the traditional New York City graffiti world. / COURTESY OF HENRY CHALFANT

### Graffiti exhibit

Students will learn about graffiti as a subculture: its craft and history, as well as how to photograph and write about it.

- On Oct. 19, an exhibition will open featuring 100 rare graffiti artifacts, including subway panels by legendary artists like Futura and KRINK.
- The exhibition will be housed at Red Bull Studios in Manhattan.

### Popular appeal

"Folks inside of the graffiti subculture aren't necessarily fans of what [Banksy] does." Jenkins

Graffiti, Jenkins explained, is a language "not meant for the mainstream." Banksy, on the other hand, is "pandering to the mainstream."

Graffiti in the 1970s started with young people writing their names on walls and subway cars. It was a simple act, Jenkins said, so simple that the kids who were doing it didn't call themselves artists or even graffiti writers — they were just writers.

Gradually, the writing became more complex; it turned into a sport, and became competitive. Graffiti as its own language was born.

Jenkins said Banksy is clearly in it for some of the reasons writers are: the rush of maintaining a sense of mystery and the thrill of being pursued.

But the consequences for Banksy, if he were to be caught, are not the same as those faced by "your

blue collar graffiti artists in Queens who get arrested." Writers face serious jailtime now, Jenkins said.

"Banksy can afford to get out of whatever mess he gets himself into," Jenkins insisted.

Banksy's visit happens to coincide with an exhibition and workshop that Jenkins organized and curated. He hand-picked 12 participants from local colleges and universities, including at-risk youth, for a six-week educational program he's dubbed "Write of Passage."

 DANIELLE TCHOLAKIAN  
danielle.tcholakian@metro.us

# Two arraigned in bike gang assault



Gloria Allred is representing Edwin Mieses, a biker run over in the incident. / GETTY IMAGES

Two more bikers were arrested and charged this weekend in connection with last week's motorcycle gang assault on the West Side Highway that captured the attention of the nation.

Robert Sims, 35, and Reginald Chance, 37, were arrested for gang assault, among other charges, for their roles in the revenge beating on an SUV driver who struck

**Viral video**  
Sims stomped on Lien's head while wearing a motorcycle helmet with the number 78, according to court papers.

several bikers escaping an attack on his car.

Police said Chance approached Alexian Lien's SUV after he ran over Edwin "Jay" Mieses,

a biker still in the hospital who is now represented by celebrity lawyer Gloria Allred.

Chance smashed the SUV driver's window while Lien's wife and 2-year-old daughter were inside, police said.

Lien was then pulled out of the car and beaten, authorities said.

Sims was arraigned Saturday; Chance was arraigned Sunday.  
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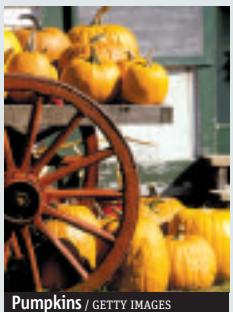
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## Lots of jack-o'-lanterns

## Thieves snatch hundreds of pumpkins from Long Island farm

Some enterprising thieves were thinking outside the box when they pulled off a heist recently at a Long Island farm.



Pumpkins / GETTY IMAGES

The loot? Pumpkins. Lots and lots of pumpkins.

About 600 of the iconic seasonal squash vanished from the Rottkamp Farm in Calverton sometime between Sept. 27 and 30, according to cops.

Riverhead Town Police put their market value of the pumpkins at about \$4,200.

A detective assigned to the case speculated that the thieves might have driven the pumpkins into Manhattan and other parts of New York City to sell them at a much higher price than they would have fetched on Long Island.

"Otherwise, that's a lot of pumpkin pie," he said.

EMILY JOHNSON



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Mayor Michael Bloomberg called on Congress to come to an "immediate resolution." / GETTY IMAGES

# Bloomberg: Shutdown may delay Sandy relief

**'Enough is enough.'** Mayor tells lawmakers to come together and break the impasse.

The government shutdown not only shuttered some of the city's most popular tourist spots, but will have a detrimental impact on federal aid for Superstorm Sandy recovery, Mayor Michael Bloomberg said Sunday.

After his administration discussed the impact with federal officials, Bloomberg said it's clear that the shutdown will delay processing of Community Development Block grants and other Sandy-related aid.

"Right now, Washington's gridlock is doing

real harm to our nation's economy — and if they don't get their acts together soon, New York City families, especially those who endured the worst from Hurricane Sandy, will feel real pain," Bloomberg said in his weekly radio address.

The shutdown isn't just affecting families hit by Sandy.

Most of the 27,000 federal employees working in the city are furloughed, according to Bloomberg.

"Enough is enough," he said. "It's time for Republicans and Democrats in both the Senate and House of Representatives to come together and reach an immediate resolution."

**ANNA SANDERS**  
[anna.sanders@metro.us](mailto:anna.sanders@metro.us)

### Shutdown fallout

Waiting longer for grants and loans could hurt businesses in the hardest-hit areas, like the Rockaways, the mayor said.

- Critical projects, like dune replenishment and building of coastal

protections, might see delays.

- Though all approvals are in place, the federal government hasn't released the second installment of Sandy recovery funds.

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## Bronx. Three charged in double murder of woman and her aunt

An ex-boyfriend and two others were charged Saturday in the brutal murder of a Bronx woman and her aunt in their Bedford Park apartment last week, police said.

Jena Randolph, 23, and her aunt Ida Randolph, 65, were found beaten to death in their bedrooms about a week after Jena and her longtime boyfriend broke up.

Ida's son, Michael Randolph, found the women Thursday evening. Police said there were multiple lacerations, stab wounds and bruising on their bodies.

Michael, 23, told police Jena and her boyfriend, Andrew Scott, had cut ties a week before.

Scott, 23, and two others were arrested and charged for their murders Saturday.

### Gruesome act

Police said all three suspects have criminal histories, including previous charges for robbery, drugs and weapons possessions.

- Though several items were taken from the apartment, robbery does not appear to be the motive behind the attack, police said.

In addition to second-degree murder, Joshua Lopez, 26, and Brittney Austin, 23, were also charged with robbery and criminal possession of a weapon.

Scott lives in Harlem, while Lopez and Austin live near the victims.

It was not clear what relationship Lopez and Austin had to the victims.

**ANNA SANDERS**

### Case findings

**They both died of blunt-impact trauma to the head, the medical examiner's office said.**



## Lots of love for man's best friends at the Church of Saint John the Divine

Camels, yaks, dogs, cats and tortoises were the center of attention at the Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine on Sunday. The annual Blessing of the Animals took place at 11 a.m., when pets were walked up the nave to receive a blessing from the clergy. This marks the 29th year that the event has been held. Picture here, actress Edie Falco holds a baby llama.

WILLIAM ALARISTE

### Fort Tryon Park

## Police ID suspect who attacked mom with baby

Police have identified the suspect who allegedly attacked a 33-year-old woman in Fort Tryon Park last week while she was pushing her 8-month-old in a stroller.

Police say Oscar Ruiz, 35, approached the woman on a bike path near the Henry Hudson Parkway about 9 a.m. Sept. 27. He allegedly called out to the victim from behind, emerged from a wooded area and then walked toward her with a broken bottle in his hand.

The victim struggled with the suspect and they fell to the ground. The woman was able to fight off her attacker by hitting him with a bicycle pump, causing a wound, police said.

Anyone with information regarding this attempted rape is asked to call the NYPD's Crime Stoppers hotline at 800-577-TIPS.

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## NYPD. Four dead in separate shootings over bloody weekend

Four men were shot to death in a 10-hour period over the weekend in four separate incidents across the Bronx, Brooklyn and Queens, police said.

The bloody weekend began about 6 p.m. Friday, when police found 26-year-old Lamar Antonio Blackwood of Brooklyn in the lobby of 5706 Farragut Road with several gunshot wounds. He was pronounced dead upon arrival at Brookdale Hospital.

The violence stretched into the early hours of Saturday with a report of a shooting in the Bronx just before 1 a.m. One man was pronounced dead outside of 1216 Burke Avenue, while a second was taken to Jacobi Hospital with a gunshot wound to the buttocks. He was listed in stable condition.

Just 45 minutes after that incident, a man was found shot to death with five bullet wounds on 140th Avenue in Queens. He was driven by

### Only one suspect

Police reported that four men were shot dead in three boroughs between Friday evening and early Sunday morning.

- A suspect has been arrested in one of the cases but police are still investigating in the other homicides.

emergency personnel to Jamaica Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Finally, just after 4 a.m. on Sunday, police received a report of a shooting outside a strip club in Queens.

Police arrested Dwayne Johnson, 26, and charged him with the second-degree murder of Allah Howell, 25, who was pronounced dead on arrival at Elmhurst Hospital.

Investigations into the other shootings are ongoing.

EMILY JOHNSON



## Thousands march for immigration reform

Thousands of New Yorkers, including activists and politicians, marched across the Brooklyn Bridge on Saturday in support of national immigration reform. / GETTY IMAGES

### Drive safe

## NYC roads are among worst in the nation

TRIP, a national transportation research group, ranked New York City roads sixth worst among large cities in the U.S., with 51 percent of its roads in poor condition.

LAURA SHIN

### Brownsville, Brooklyn

## Father of baby shooting victim sought in subway robbery

The father and uncle of a 16-month-old boy fatally shot in September are suspected in a subway robbery last week, police said.

Anthony Hennis, 22, who was with his



Anthony Hennis / NYPD

son Antiq when he was killed, is being sought for allegedly robbing a teenager with his brother on Thursday.

Police said Anthony and Ammany Hennis, 20, approached a 19-year-old on a 3 train.

After being threatened, the teen gave the brothers his watch, police said.

ANNA SANDERS

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**Tripoli****Suspect's son says captors had Libyan accents**

The son of a suspected Islamist militant seized in Tripoli said yesterday his father had been snatched as he returned home from morning prayers by men with Libyan accents.

Abdullah al Ragye,

20, told reporters his father had been arriving home from prayers when men pulled up in four cars, knocked him out with some kind of drug and dragged him from his vehicle.

"They had a Libyan look and Libyan accents. They took him out of his car after breaking the window," he said.

**US raid****Libya's PM demands explanation**

Libyan Prime Minister Ali Zeidan yesterday asked U.S. officials to explain Saturday's raid.

"The Libyan government is following the news of the kidnapping of a Libyan citizen who is wanted by U.S.

authorities," Zeidan's office said in a statement. **REUTERS**

**Quoted**

**"The Libyan government has contacted U.S. authorities to ask them to provide an explanation."**

Zeidan's office



The bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya, on Aug. 7, 1998, killed 158 people and left 4,824 injured. / GETTY IMAGES

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## Raids show US reach, problems

**Payback.** One Libyan security official warned that al Qaeda would prepare a violent response.

Two U.S. raids in Africa show the United States is pressuring al Qaeda, officials said yesterday, though a failure in Somalia and an angry response in Libya also highlighted Washington's problems.

In Tripoli, U.S. forces snatched a Libyan wanted in the bombings of the U.S. embassy in Nairobi, Kenya, 15 years ago and whisked him out of the country, prompting Secretary of State John Kerry to declare that al Qaeda leaders "can run but they can't hide."

But the capture of Nazzih al-Ragye, better known as Abu Anas al-Liby, also provoked a complaint about the "kidnap" from the Western-backed prime minister; he faces a backlash from armed Islamists who have carved out a share of power since the West helped Libyan rebels oust Muammar Qaddafi two years ago.

In Somalia, Navy SEALs stormed ashore into the al Shabaab stronghold of Barwe in response to the attack last month on a Kenyan mall, but a U.S.

official said they failed to capture or kill the unnamed target among the Somali allies of al Qaeda.

Kerry, on a visit to Indonesia, said President Barack Obama's administration was "pleased with the results" of Saturday's combined assaults.

Two years after Navy SEALs finally tracked down and killed al Qaeda founder Osama bin Laden in Pakistan, a decade after al Qaeda's Sept. 11 attacks on the United States in 2001, the twin operation demonstrated the reach of U.S. military forces in Africa, where Islamist militancy has been in the ascendant.

But the forays also threw a spotlight on how Somalia remains a fragmented haven for al Qaeda allies more than 20 years after Washington intervened in vain in its civil war, and on how Libya has descended into an anarchic battleground on the Mediterranean that stretches deep south into the Sahara. **REUTERS**

**Defense Secretary**

Chuck Hagel said the raids showed Washington would "spare no effort to hold terrorists accountable."

# **Boehner: US on path to default if Obama won't negotiate**



**While selling has been orderly so far, investors expect volatility to rise as the shutdown continues and the debt ceiling deadline nears.** (GETTY IMAGES

## Markets wary.

**Markets wary.** There are concerns that the shutdown could trim economic growth.

Republican House Speaker John Boehner vowed yesterday not to raise the U.S. debt ceiling without a "serious conversation" about what is driving the debt, while Democrats said it was irresponsible and reckless to raise the possibility of a U.S. default.

"The nation's credit is at risk because of the administration's refusal to sit down and have a conversation."

Pivotal

## Campaign finance case on high court docket

The U.S. Supreme Court will this week step into the politically charged debate over campaign finance for the first time since its controversial ruling three years ago paved the way for corporations and unions to spend more on political candidates and causes.

The case has the potential to weaken a key element of the federal campaign finance regulations remaining after the 2010 ruling.

Republicans and Democrats also traded blame for a shutdown that has brought much of the government to a standstill for nearly a week.

With no end in sight, the battle over funding the government looks like it will merge with the one over the debt ceiling, which must be raised by Oct. 17 to avoid default. **REUTERS**

The comments appeared to mark a hardening since late last week when Boehner was reportedly told Republicans privately that he would work to avoid default, even if it meant relying on the votes of Democrats, as he did in August 2011.

**Debt limit**

# \$16.7T

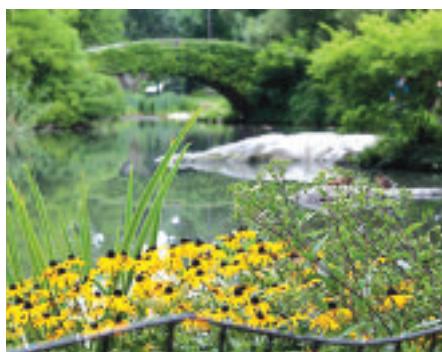
Republicans are seeking concessions in exchange for raising the nation's \$16.7 trillion debt limit. If the borrowing cap is not increased, the United States could go into default.

**Debt limit**  
**\$16.7T**

**Republicans are seeking concessions in exchange for raising the nation's \$16.7 trillion debt limit. If the borrowing cap is not increased, the United States could go into default.**

## Today's winner

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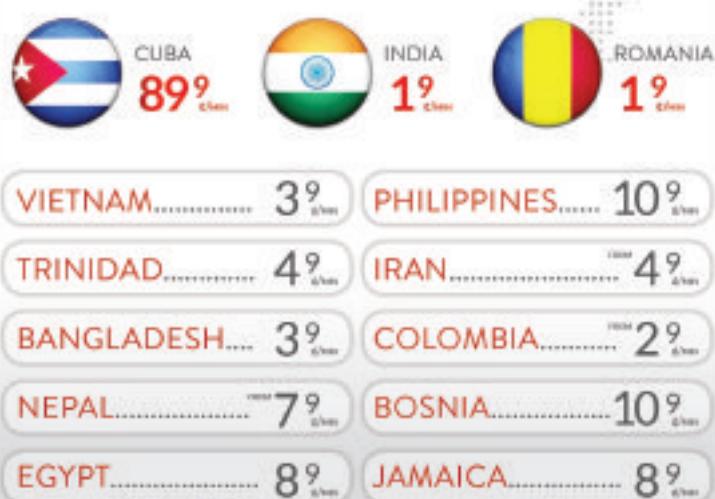


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## Gaming. It's not all fun and games for a champ of rock-paper-scissors

It's been around forever, but the UK Rock Paper Scissors Championship has revived the classic battle of wits. With the 2013 edition next month, we spoke to organizer Sally Raynes.

### What does it take to be a champion?

Some of it is luck, but also psychology, cunning and arrogance.

### How do you get in someone's head?

Lots of things: One is if you look them in the eye or put on shades that can be disorientating. Another thing people do is walk up in a very aggressive



Rock beats scissors. / WACKY NATION

### Question

**Are there "rock" people that you can tell by looking at them?**

Typically it's men — women are more likely to use paper because it's passive-aggressive. Scissors are for cunning people.

way that suggests you will throw a rock, and then go for paper.

**The last three champions have all been from the small town of Woking in southern England. Why are they so good?**

Investigators were sent there to find out but couldn't, so I have no idea. It must be something in the water supply.

METRO WORLD NEWS

## Japanese author, Pakistani teen activist tipped for Nobels

**Secrecy.** The Swedish Academy members who award the prize only discuss it within the Academy walls.

A Pakistani teenage activist shot by the Taliban and a Japanese author who writes about alienation and a fractured modern world are predicted as Nobel Prize winners ahead of the annual awards that start today.

Malala Yousafzai, 16, shot in the head by the Taliban last year for demanding education for girls, gave a speech at the United Nations in July saying she would not bow to "terrorists" who thought they could silence her. She is a favorite for the peace prize among experts and betting agencies.

"I have Malala Yousafzai on top," Kristian



Malala Yousafzai gives a speech after receiving the Raw in War Anna Politkovskaya Award at the Southbank Centre in central London on Oct. 4. / GETTY IMAGES

### Top pick

**Malala is a favorite for the peace prize among experts and betting agencies.**

Berg Harpviken, director of Oslo-based peace research institute PRIO, told reporters. "The EU (European Union) got the prize last year and the EU prize was poorly understood and fundamentally questioned in many quarters."

One obstacle could be

her age. Tawakkol Karman, a Yemeni human rights activist and youngest winner to date, was 32 when she received the prize and some experts argue the prize would overburden such a young woman. Yousafzai is living in Birmingham, England and still facing Taliban threats.

British bookmaker Ladbrokes has put Japanese author Haruki Murakami in pole position for the literature prize.

Murakami is very popular in Japan, but has also become well known abroad for his works that deal with isolation and love and bring the surreal into everyday life.

His first novel, "Hear the Wind Sing," was published in 1979, but Murakami first leaped to literary stardom in 1987 with "Norwegian Wood," a bleak coming-of-age story dominated by grief and loss and named after a Beatles song. REUTERS

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# Floodgates reopen, platforms restaff as storm wanes in Gulf

**Karen.** Evacuation orders are lifted after tropical storm fizzles out.

Massive barge gates shut to prevent flooding in New Orleans were reopened yesterday and energy firms started returning workers to oil platforms in the Gulf of Mexico, after officials lifted evacuation orders as Tropical Storm Karen fizzled.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was reestablishing normal port traffic on waterways, including the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal-Lake Borgne Surge Barrier and the Seabrook Floodgate Complex in New Orleans, built after Hurricane Katrina.

Karen was downgraded to a tropical depression late on Saturday by the U.S. National Hurricane Center. All tropical storm warn-

ings and watches were scrapped.

BP, Marathon Oil, and Chevron were returning workers to offshore facilities by helicopter after earlier evacuations. The vital Louisiana Offshore Oil Port, the only U.S. facility that can dock the world's largest oil tankers, reopened. Other companies were working to restore operations.

Storm warnings had prompted energy firms to shut in nearly two-thirds of oil output and half of natural gas production as of Saturday, the government said. The shut-ins started on Thursday. **REUTERS**

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# Fatal. Mexico monster truck accident kills eight; 79 are injured

At least eight people, including three children, were killed and 79 were wounded when a monster truck careened into a crowd at a show in northern Mexico, an official at the public prosecutor's office in the city of Chihuahua said yesterday.

The incident late on Saturday afternoon took place at the El Rejon dam on the outskirts of the city, about 230 miles south of

Mexico's border with the United States.

Some local media reported the death toll had risen to 13, but there was no official confirmation.

The dead included two girls ages 6 and 7 and a 12-year-old boy, according to the city government's official Facebook page.

Some 46 people remained hospitalized yesterday morning after 33 were discharged. **REUTERS**

## Mission

### Chemical experts begin destroying Syria's arsenal

A team of international experts began the process of destroying Syria's chemical gas arsenal yesterday, an official on the mission said.

Witnesses said the experts left their Damascus hotel in the early hours on yesterday for an unknown location.

The Syrian government and the rebels blame each other for the chemical incident in a Damascus suburb that killed 1,400. **REUTERS**



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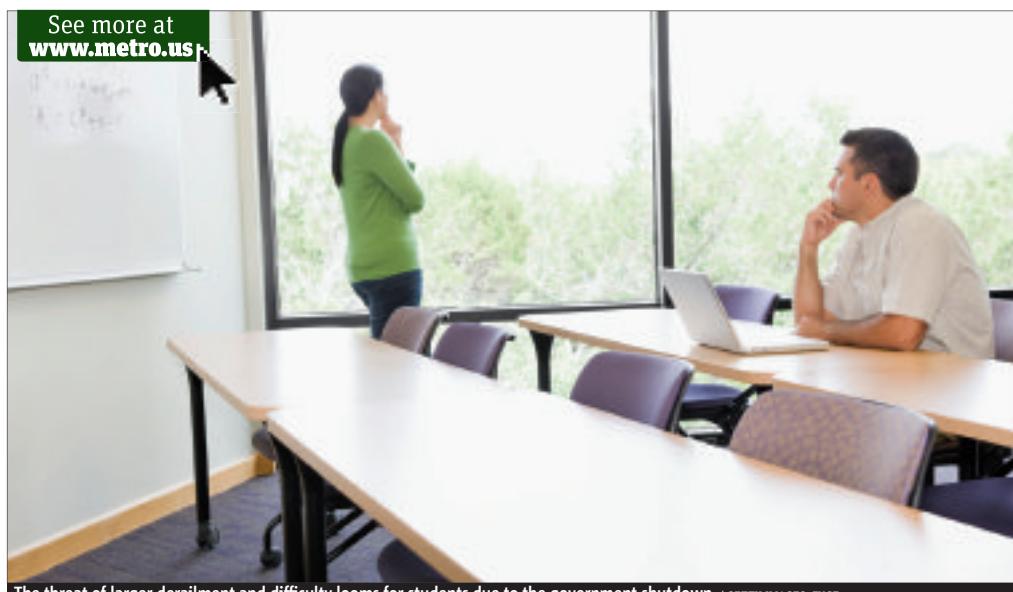
# A shutdown in the classroom, too

**Student aid.** As the government shutdown heads into its second week, students and professors may start to feel the impact.

The halls of higher education institutions are not immune to the government shutdown. While some areas may continue operating as normal, experts warn others may not be so fortunate.

Jon Fansmith, associate director for government relations at the American Council of Education, explains how the shutdown impacts financial aid in a few different ways depending on the program.

Pell Grants and student aid will continue to operate as normal under the Department of Education's contingency plan. Student loans are ser-



The threat of larger derailment and difficulty looms for students due to the government shutdown. / GETTY IMAGES, FUSE

viced by outside servicers who have contracts with the DOR and should not be interrupted, though that could obviously change if a protracted shutdown results in contracts lapsing because the

government is not fulfilling its end."

Other types of financial aid will begin to experience difficulties in awarding and distribution of funds. "Colleges will often do what they can to

extend aid to students in need with the expectation that the government will get its act together soon. But if it drags on, schools will be hard-pressed to maintain that."

Robert Kelchen, assistant professor of higher education at Seton Hall University, points out right now the most affected group financially relates to students receiving military veteran benefits, particularly those who enrolled in new courses after Oct. 1. "They can't access their benefits at this point. Estimates that I've seen show it's a few thousand students. Until the government reopens, that group cannot get funds.

"If they want to sign up for classes, they have to pay for it on their own."

As for how the shut-

down will play out in the classroom, graduate students may feel more of an impact than undergrads. Michael Hicks, Ball State University economics professor and director of the Center for Business and Economic Research, states, "I teach an MBA class [where] students write papers. Finding census data or Bureau of Labor Statistics data is very difficult." The websites of numerous federal databases have gone dark.

Plus, as an economist Hicks calculates quarterly economic forecasts and closely watches the monthly employment summary. "I'm worried about not having available data. What if we go another month without updates? I'll be forecasting unemployment rates and I don't even know what they are today."

## Shutdown 101

The current shutdown (also known as an appropriations funding gap) is the 17th since 1976.

- The longest occurred from December 15, 1995 to January 6, 1996.
- The median length of a shutdown is four days.
- Average mean number of days of a shutdown is 7.2.
- Within two months of the shutdown, Washington, D.C., employment will drop by .02 percent each day the government remains closed for business.

*Source: Economic Effect of a Government Shutdown, Michael J. Hicks, Center for Business and Economic Research, Miller College of Business, Ball State University*

The most important factor is time. Kelchen says right now most of higher ed is "running as planned," but the longer this drags on the greater the uncertainty — and the bigger punch it packs.

Fansmith adds, "Key research projects will never get started, low-income students won't be able to afford to enter or continue their studies, and institutions will struggle to maintain support for students and research activities."

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# The SAT vs. ACT showdown

## Penciling in.

Choosing the test that makes you look best is the name of the game when it comes to the big exam.

As high schoolers across the land sharpen their pencils for the SAT or ACT this fall, they still need to decide on one of the two college entrance exams. According to the National Center for Fair and Open Testing, the number of ACT takers has surpassed the number of SAT takers. Most schools still require one of the two test scores as a main criteria for college admissions.

Colin Gruenwald, Kaplan Test Prep's director of SAT and ACT programs, explains: "Students have the opportunity to deliver the score that best represents them. At this point

every university in the U.S. that requests or accepts the SAT also requests or accepts the ACT. Some students do better on one test than the other."

His advice to test takers? "Sit down, take your sample tests and figure out which one is definitely the best option for you," he says.

Whether it's through your library, guidance counselor's office or taking free sample tests through Kaplan, the prep work isn't optional. After choosing which one works better, Gruenwald advises students to focus all their energy on that test.

Kelly Montrym agrees. The associate director in the office of undergraduate admission at Boston College doesn't have a preference with one test over the other when evaluating prospective students. She points out, "We'll use whichever score is stronger for the student."

In fact, she explains

that although students may feel like test scores reflect their intelligence, admissions professionals evaluate scores as overall readiness. "We view it as how prepared you are for college," she says.

Some may disagree, leaning more toward grades in school over standardized tests. Bob Schaeffer, public education director of FairTest, explains: "No doubt that a kid who scores a 1400 is going to be more ready than a kid who scores a 600, but the point is there's better data prediction, and that is the high school record. Researchers attest that high school grades — despite the differences of high schools — are a better measurement."

Many schools have adopted this mindset; 850 accredited, bachelor-degree granting institutions have dropped the ACT/SAT admissions exam requirement. "From our perspective, neither test is necessary to do effective college

## Compare and contrast

### ACT

- Five sections: English, math, reading, science and a 30-minute optional writing test.
- The maximum score for each section is 36.
- Content areas tested in each section.
- A writing test is at the end.
- Testing time is 3 hours and

### SAT

- Three sections: Critical reading, math and a 25-minute required writing test.
- Wrong answer penalty.
- The maximum score for each section is 800.

25 minutes (45 minutes for each section).

- No wrong answer penalty.
- Questions have a consistent level of difficulty.

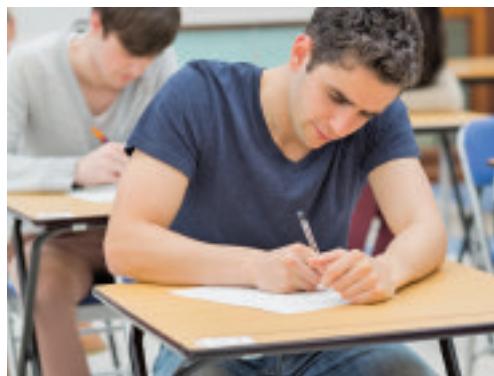
- Content areas break down into 10 sections.

- Required writing test is at the beginning.

- Testing time is 3 hours and 45 minutes (sections range from 10-25 minutes depending on the section).

- Wrong answer penalty.

- Questions get more difficult as test progresses.



Choosing which test — or even whether to take it — means evaluating your strengths as a student. / WAVEBREAK MEDIA

admissions. Both tests are inferior to high school grades," Schaeffer says.

Though he doesn't believe in them, Schaeffer says he doesn't think that either test will go away entirely.

Montrym, the president of the New England Association for College Admission Counseling, seconds that notion. "If I was a betting woman, I would say the tests are here to stay."

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HIGHER EDUCATION 14

# Big brother (or mom) is watching

**Tech.** A new app lets parents, students and teachers seamlessly access students' report cards, records, attendance and more.

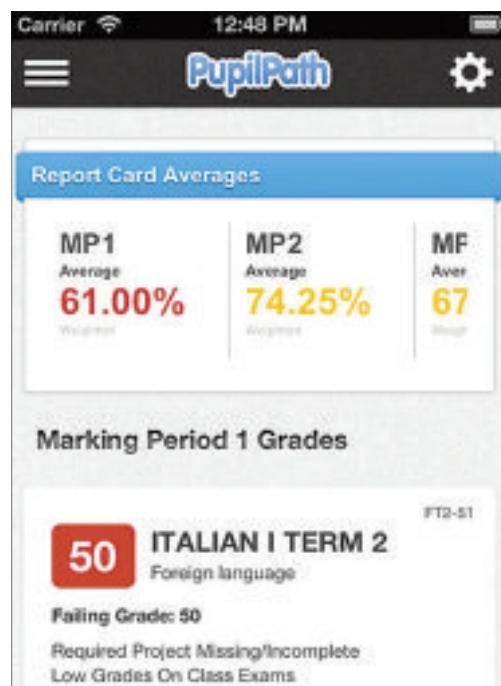
Students won't be able to outrun a scary history assignment or a bad grade from a test any longer. A new mobile app gives teachers, parents and students on-the-go access to everything from grades, assignments, attendance, student records and teacher-to-parent messaging.

What could seem a bit

stressful turns out to meet a significant demand. According to DataCation — creators of PupilPath — the app has been downloaded 12,500 times in its first week.

DataCation provides student-data systems to 550 schools in New York City and the app is available to any school that currently uses its online PupilPath platform. The idea is to make it easier for students and families to achieve a close connection to the school community.

"When a parent knows their child's homework assignment, or what grade they got on an exam, that parent becomes the teacher's out-of-the-classroom advocate for the child. When a student is sick for



three days and remains in constant contact with the teacher and accesses assignments from home, the product becomes a bridge connecting teacher and student," says Peter Bencivenga, co-founder of DataCation, via press release.

The application is currently available for iPhones and iPads. Additional platforms will be available soon.

MAJA LUNDAGER  
letters@metro.us

## Bull's-eye. New app helps students find internships on their phones

College students and graduates know getting an internship can be the gateway to a job but landing one can be difficult.

One new mobile app is changing that by showing students job opportunities nearby. By aiming a smartphone at a nearby building that houses companies, users will be able to see available internships there.

The app is from Internship Lens, which was created by Finnish communications corporation Nokia for its Windows-based smartphones.

"You're able to point your phone at a building and see the jobs available at companies there, and also the people you know at that company," said Bryan Biniak, a vice president at Nokia, said in a telephone interview from Espoo in Finland.

"People are often looking for a place near their home, or along the transportation line," he added.

Nearly half of internships in the United States turned into full-time jobs



By pointing their smartphones at buildings, Internship Lens lets students connect with potential employers. / WAVEBREAK MEDIA

this year, according to The National Association of Colleges and Employers.

The app uses augmented reality, a technology that overlays information on a real-world display, to show internship listings. Users can also browse for opportunities on a map.

The app connects with professional and social media websites LinkedIn and Facebook to identify people who might be able to make an introduction to the hiring manager.

Biniak said the odds of getting a callback for an

internship can increase greatly when there is a mutual connection.

"It might be a friend or family member or your friend's dad who works at that company," he said.

The free app lists more than 75,000 internships from 45,000 companies across the United States through a partnership with the internship listings site Internships.com. Users can also upload resumes and apply to jobs through the app.

REUTERS



GETTY IMAGES



# ANTHONY MACKIE

The "Runner Runner" actor knows the joys of playing bad.

## ON SMACKING JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE

In addition to impressive turns in "Half Nelson," "The Hurt Locker" and "Night Catches Us," Anthony Mackie has done biggies like "Pain & Gain" and the forthcoming "Captain America" sequel, in which he plays one of the first African-American comic book characters, Falcon. In "Runner Runner," he co-stars as an FBI agent trying to coax Justin Timberlake's online poker exec into ratting on his shady boss (Ben Affleck).

**Your character isn't a villain, but he is a fed who's a bit evil.**  
I feel like every good guy has a tinge of bad. Even if you are a good guy, sometimes you gotta do a little bad to get the job done. We changed the character a little bit to make him more of a head-cracker. He was more of a mild-mannered, neutral detective like, He's now more of a bad guy.

**Is it fun playing bad?**

**Quoted**  
"[Justin Timberlake] and Ben [Affleck] are the luckiest guys in the world. Ben goes around and wins poker tournaments and s—. I was like, 'I'm going to bring these guys down to Earth.'" Mackie, on working with two ultra-celebrities

It is. Because you get to justify all the evil thoughts you have every day. [Laughs] Living in New York, driving around the city or simply just going to the grocery store, you

always want to crack somebody in the head. I feel like being the bad guy allows you to take up that aggression you get just simply walking around New York.

**Was it fun pushing around Justin Timberlake?**  
It was the highlight of my year. None of that was in the script, so I told Justin that I took the job just so I could smack him around. I feel like he and Ben are the luckiest guys in the world. Ben goes around and wins poker tournaments and s—. I was like, "I'm going to bring these guys down to earth."

**Unlike many actors, you**

**live in Brooklyn. Do you not like Los Angeles?**

No, no, L.A.'s cool. It's just kind of like "Groundhog Day." Every day go to the same coffee shop, you see the same people. It's very relaxing. New York is more about interaction with different people and bad food and just trying to maintain your sanity. I need a rainy day every now and then.



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# Earth clings to 'Gravity'

## Box office.

Americans headed to the theater in droves for the Bullock-Clooney space thriller.

"Gravity," a new 3-D thriller about two stranded astronauts (Sandra Bullock and George Clooney) floating through space, soared to the top of weekend movie charts, setting a box office record for the month of October by pulling in \$55.6 million at U.S. and Canadian theaters.

Last week's box office winner, animated "Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2," dropped to second place with \$21.5 million from Friday through Sunday. "Runner Runner," a new drama about the dark and murky world of online gambling, finished third after earning \$7.6 million.

"Runner Runner" was far less popular with crit-



Sandra Bullock is relieved that people rushed to see "Gravity."  
WARNER BROS. PICTURES

ics as well as audiences, scoring a meager 8 percent positive rating on Rotten Tomatoes and netting less than \$10 million in ticket sales. The movie stars Justin Timberlake as a graduate student who goes to Costa Rica to confront an online gambling tycoon, played by Ben Affleck.

The week's other top films included the Hugh Jackman drama "Prisoners," which took in \$5.7 million. Ron Howard's car racing drama "Rush" took the No. 5 slot with \$4.4 million. **REUTERS**

## Top 5

- 1** 'Gravity' \$55.6 million
- 2** 'Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2' \$21.5 million
- 3** 'Runner Runner' \$7.6 million
- 4** 'Prisoners' \$5.7 million
- 5** 'Rush' \$4.4 million

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Department of Radiology

Kathie-Ann Joseph, MD  
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# ALFONSO CUARON

The director of "Gravity" didn't throw up while riding the infamous "Vomit Comet."

## FLOATING IN SPACE

Alfonso Cuaron apologizes for the delay in bringing his latest film, "Gravity" — starring Sandra Bullock and George Clooney (and no one else) — to the masses. But properly presenting outer space turned out to be a tough nut to crack. The results seemed worth the wait, as moviegoers came out in droves for the film over the weekend. Plus, Cuaron got to discover a new favorite pastime: experiencing zero gravity on the "Vomit Comet."

**The first question after seeing this film is: How did you make this?**  
[Laughs] Well, the first

thing is we were trying to do a film that takes place in space but that looks like those IMAX documentaries that you're used to seeing. We didn't want it to look like a comic book or a fantasy rendering of space. So that was the point of departure. The rest of the conversation was, "OK, how the heck are we going to do it?" So we tried several existing technologies. Nothing existed that we could use so we had to invent our own tools. And then four-and-a-half years later, here we are. [Laughs]

You just get such fluid camera motion, which you've always had, but it's

**amplified here.** It's because there's no up and there's no down. That's the thing — we wanted to honor the physics and the mechanics in zero-G, including not only the character and the objects but the camera. A lot of that was informed by doing tests in different systems and possibilities, including parabolic flights — the "Vomit Comet." Once you're floating, you don't have much control. Your inertia dictates how you move. We talked about that, that the camera was also in zero-G. The camera is not controlled.

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**Vomit Comet?**

No, I loved it. The stunt man actually threw up, but I didn't. I loved it, I loved it. It's really amazing. It's so much fun. And I'm a wimp with roller coasters — I cannot stand them. But this one, I could do it all day long. The beautiful thing about the

parabolic flight is when you start floating — for me it was one of those things that felt almost primal and familiar.

**Did you feel much resistance about the idea of a female lead?**

No, no. There's the expression in the film, "Houston

in the blind," which is a real expression when there's no communication. And the studio was in the blind. They were paying all this money to develop a technology that we didn't know was going to work, then investing in a shoot that we didn't know was going to work, then on top of that, after the shoot, they weren't able to see anything for eight months. And then [when] we arrived at our release date a year ago, we were not ready. They said, "Do you need a couple of months?" [We said,] "No, we need a year." And they had to keep on going. And with Sandy [Bullock], yeah, obviously when you are at some early stage there are voices that say, "Why don't you do it with a male lead? It's more exciting and we can have these actors. These kinds of movies work better with a male lead." Yeah, you have some voices, but the moment that I said that I couldn't envision this film with a male lead, they were OK with it.

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ENTERTAINMENT 20

# Hooked on 'Big Fish'

### Theater.

Broadway's newest fantasy musical will leave you reeling.

It's fitting that when children look back on "Big Fish" at Neil Simon Theatre, they'll remember it as magical, with larger-than-life sequences of light, sound, dance and song. Sure, they might not understand what's happening beyond the stunning numbers; but for adults, there's a tense, emotional under-

pining that is likely to provoke both laughter and tears — and hey, they'll enjoy the tall tales, too.

All of the stops are pulled to make a giant, werewolf, assassin, circus, tornado and flood come to life on a stage that's shared with the full orchestra (the pit has been co-opted by a mermaid). The best segment has to be the chapter titled "The Witch," wherein a swamp-dwelling spell-caster (Ciara Renee) sets in motion the string of events that will lead our protagonist to his wife, his son and, most importantly, a way to be content with an ordinary life.

Norbert Leo Butz may not be as spry as he once was, but as storytelling father Edward Bloom, the only thing holding him back is a wavering Alabama accent. Bobby Steggert, as his unrelenting son, knows just how and when to save his character from what could be an irresolvable unlikeability (if not only



Edward Bloom (Norbert Leo Butz, right) woos his future wife (Kate Baldwin) in "Big Fish." / PAUL KOLNIK

because Butz's Bloom, his nemesis, is just so likeable).

This success, based on the book by Daniel Wallace and the 2003 Tim Burton movie, is not without its flaws. But isn't it in line with this play, about the suspension of disbelief, to overlook these technicali-

ties in favor of the, well, bigger picture?

We're willing to — because Susan Stroman's "Big Fish" is, by Broadway standards, a trophy catch.



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**Health.** It's time to get your flu shot.

When it comes to the flu, memory can be deceiving. Many adults mistakenly think it is no big deal, like the common cold. But the flu sends more than 200,000 Americans each year to the hospital — and a simple vaccination can protect you from many strains of the virus.

"Until it hits your household, you don't realize how serious the flu can be," stresses Dr. Dyan Hes, medical director at Gramercy Pediatrics. "It makes you feel like you've been hit by a truck," Hes says. "You have a high fever, sore throat and vomiting. Kids miss a lot of school, and you may have to stay home from work."

While the CDC recommends annual flu shots for anyone over 6 months old, Hes reminds parents to be especially vigilant about vaccinating their kids. Last year she saw a few cases of the flu among families who declined the vaccination — and later regretted it.

People have options for the vaccination. Most doctors use the standard four-strain shot for as long as supplies last, although availability may be limited to a three-strain version later in the season. There is also the intradermal flu vaccine, which is approved for adults and uses a smaller needle to enter the skin instead of the muscle. And although a nasal spray vaccine might do the trick for the totally needle-phobic, Hes says that a squirt of

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# One shot you won't regret the next day

**Save a child**

You don't need to go to the doctor for a flu shot (though that is an option). Walgreens and Duane Reade pharmacies offer them on a walk-in basis or by appointment, and the stores take insurance. For every vaccination ad-

ministered at one of these locations through Oct. 14, Walgreens will donate the value of a life-saving vaccine to the United Nations Foundation's Shot@Life campaign, which immunizes children worldwide against diseases like polio.

Contrary to popular belief, the flu shot does not give you the flu. Many flu shots are made with an inactive form of the virus that is not infectious, according to the CDC. Others don't even contain the virus. So get your vaccine already! / [WWW.JUPITERIMAGES.COM](http://WWW.JUPITERIMAGES.COM)





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**Help the kiddos**

Parents can help prepare wary tykes for a shot by playing doctor at home. "They can pretend to be a doctor, and give their doll or dinosaur a shot," Dr. Hes says. The day of the vaccination, older siblings can also set an example by receiving their shots first. That way, younger kids are assured it isn't so scary.

liquid up each side of the nose might actually be less pleasant than being poked.

"The shot itself doesn't really hurt — it's more the anxiety," Hes explains.

Despite greatly reducing your risk of getting sick, no flu shot is a fool-proof preventative. There are many strains of the illness, and they are constantly changing. Even after getting vaccinated, Hes

says, people should practice good hygiene by doing things like washing their hands after getting off the subway. For anyone who does notice symptoms like fever, sore throat, chills and vomiting, Hes urges a doctor's visit for a prescription for Tamiflu.

NATALIE SHURE  
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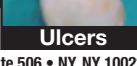
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On the Run

## JIM CARROLL

Jim Carroll has been a New Yorker for more than 15 years but is about to experience one of the most quintessential New York experiences for the first time: the ING NYC Marathon. Join him each week on his journey to the finish line on Nov. 3.



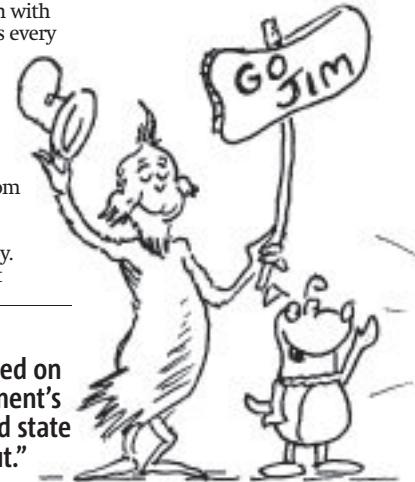
Two major events happened to me this past week.

The first was meeting Olympic marathon silver medalist and 2009 NYC Marathon men's champion Meb Keflezighi. The second can only be described as a miracle — one of biblical proportion.

Let's start with meeting Keflezighi. Last Friday, Sony organized a media meet-and-greet with Keflezighi in Central Park. We tried out a new Sony MP3 player and were given the opportunity to run a couple miles with Keflezighi. If I had to use one word to describe Keflezighi it would be "jolm" — a combination of joyful and calm. He actually inspired

me to make up a word.

Keflezighi patiently answered all of our marathon-related questions and humbly talked about his Olympic experience. If I had won that Olympic medal, I'd still be wearing it. But he really lit up when he talked about his family, sharing a touching story about an overdue reunion with his father, giving us every detail of when he first saw his dad's face. And, with a big smile, he explained how he eats a specific pre-race meal made from one of his mom's special recipes. He actually radiated joy. I can't believe I just



Quoted

"Happiness is a conditional feeling based on outside events and can leave on a moment's notice. Joy, on the other hand, is a fixed state that comes from inside and radiates out."

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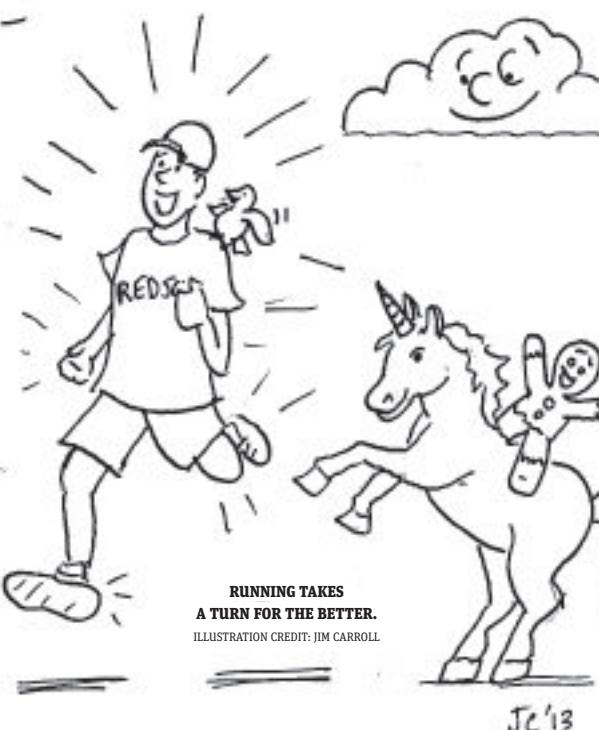
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# AND MAKING MAGIC



wrote that corny line, but that's what happened. He didn't just seem to be joyful about running, he seemed to be joyful about life itself. It just felt good being around the guy.

The second event I experienced was having an entire change of heart about running. In the past, I've compared it to getting rickets or having a tooth extracted. But on Saturday morning, that all changed. I don't know if it was from meeting Keflezighi the day before or the fact I sprinkled ecstasy on my Corn Flakes (just kidding about the ecstasy thing), but I couldn't put my running shoes on fast enough. I actually wanted to run! My 6-mile run was like a hybrid mixture of the movie, "It's a Wonderful Life" and the board game

Candy Land. It was like I was running 2 feet off the ground. At one

point, I swear a blue bird landed on my shoulder and a dog high-fived me. I was St. Francis of Assisi in Asics. Everything seemed to glow. I was happy.

But what I realized when I got home was that it wasn't happiness I had experienced, but joy. Happiness is a conditional feeling based on outside events (getting the job, getting the last cupcake) and can leave on a moment's notice (getting fired, cupcake falling on floor). Joy, on the other hand, is a fixed state that comes from inside and radiates out. It's a deep serenity that lives in a place that the busy modern world can't get to. I had forgotten that feeling, one that seemed so plentiful when I was 10, covered up now by years of disappointments and complaints. But on Saturday I experienced it again, and people like Keflezighi have shown me that that feeling of joy can stay long after the shoes come off.

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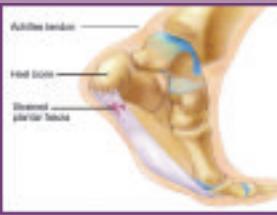
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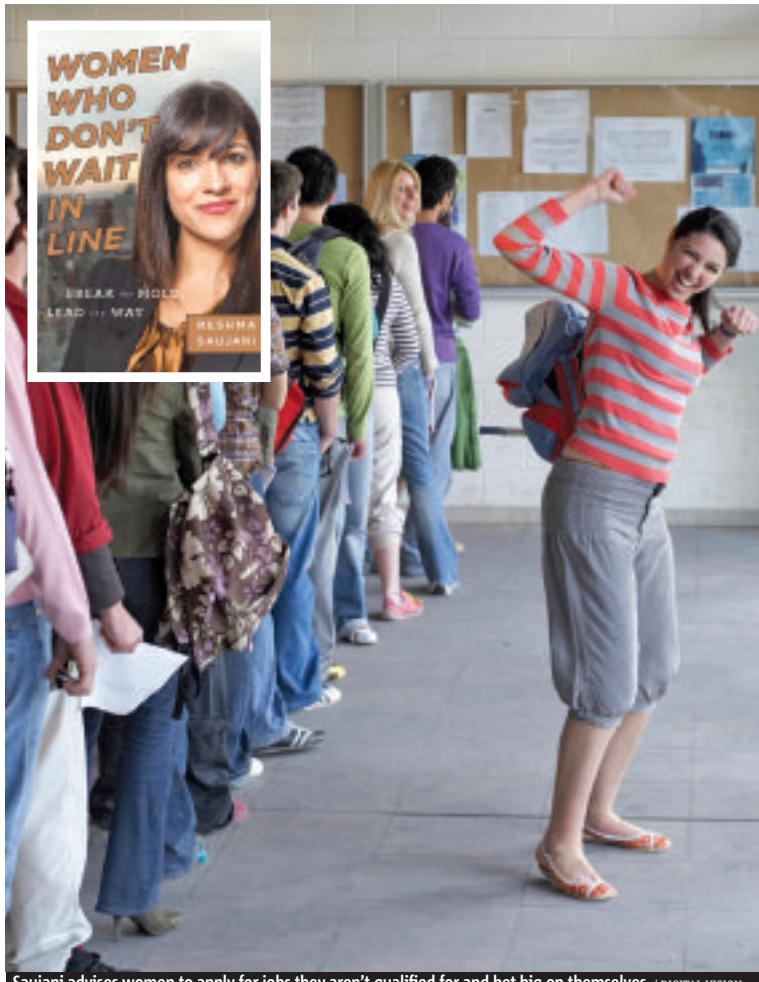
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# Ladies, it is OK to skip the line



Saujani advises women to apply for jobs they aren't qualified for and bet big on themselves. / DIGITAL VISION

**Girl power.** A new book urges women to take risks and be unafraid.

Reshma Saujani wants women to fail. Well — not exactly, but in her book "Women Who Don't Wait in Line," Saujani makes it very clear that women who take risks and fail big are the ones who are going to end up changing the ratio for women in all parts of leadership.

Saujani isn't a stranger to failure either. The book opens with an arresting depiction of the day after her unsuccessful run for Congress in New York in 2010. She rolls out of a bed surrounded by unopened celebratory champagne plagued by her loss. The anecdote aptly sets up the lessons the book imparts

about taking risks and embracing failure in order to achieve more.

"I think the thing is, if you haven't failed enough you haven't tried anything," the Yale Law graduate and founder of the non-profit Girls Who Code, says. "It doesn't mean you're not going to be sad and question yourself and figure out if there's another way, but as women we have to be OK with not taking the easy way out."

Saujani says that the book began as an exercise to move on from the loss of her congressional run and became a soothing resource. The advice she gives stresses authenticity and ambition, suggesting that women need to do more than just lean in. She says they need to hire women whenever possible so that professional networks can grow. (With pride, Saujani says that Sheryl Sandberg

has been a big supporter of hers.)

"We need some more fairy godmothers, women who are going to create opportunities for each other," Saujani says. "Men do it all the time — they see it as part of their obligation to figure out who's going to be the one to take their place."

For Saujani, her legacy as a public servant isn't as clear as her intention to enact change for women. Overall, she says she's optimistic.

"We have this generational divide. You see these young women who are impatient, that are brazen and forward-thinking. How do we continue to embrace that?" she asks, hoping her readers will find the answers.



JULIA FURLAN

julia.furlan@metro.us

## Q & A

**The book says to "follow your bliss." What does that mean to you?**

You know, I think I made life choices that were

not about following my bliss but about being financially secure. We, as women, may graduate law school or grad school, but we're afraid to do things because we need to be economically secure first. I think that's why we have to not see our careers as

being linear. I've been a marketer, I've been a lawyer, I've worked in finance, I've run a nonprofit. I've had so many careers in my life at age 37. I think we have to be more experimental, more innovative, more interesting and get off the beaten path.

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# Jobs data goes MIA

**Shutdown.** With no government stats, economists piece together a forecast.

You can hear the effects of the government shutdown in the voicemail message of the Department of Labor: "Due to a lapse in funding we may only perform certain accepted activities ... we will not be able to respond until after funding has been restored."

The jobs report was not on the agenda, since it wasn't released on its normal monthly schedule, and DOL statements indicate there's no release date for September data on the horizon.

Mark Zupan, an economist and dean of the Simon School of Business at the University of Rochester, explains that the situation fosters an environment of ambiguity. "Decision-making has a public characteristic to it, and you want [the



There is still no potential release date for the September jobs report, according to the Department of Labor. / AFP, GETTY IMAGES

## Quoted

"This just makes the situation more opaque and will introduce more nervousness into the system."

One way to gain clarity for the time being is relying on other data, like ADP's monthly national employment report. "There are substitutes," he says. "Paychex is another company, headed out of Rochester — a firm that has key information. They're the next best game in town and if the government isn't going to do it."

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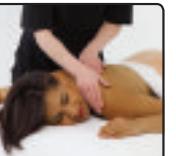
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**Horoscope**

**♊ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22.**  
Put greater emphasis on money matters and making good use of old ideas that could come in handy.

**♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21.**  
Find ways to add to your comfort and peace of mind at home. Dealing with people who can offer insight will lead to a lifestyle change.

**♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21.**  
Do what you can to improve your surroundings and community as well as help those in need. This will attract people who can help you advance.

**♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20.**  
Take a serious approach to your work. An interesting offer may not bring high returns.

**♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18.**  
Listen carefully, but don't be too eager to act. Back away from responsibilities that don't belong to you. Protect your assets and your heart.

**♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20.**  
Money matters will surface, allowing you to make extra cash, sign a lucrative deal or win a settlement. It's a good day to broaden your interests.

**♈ Aries | March 21-April 19.**  
You'll have greater insight into relationships. Follow your heart and proceed with a low-key approach.

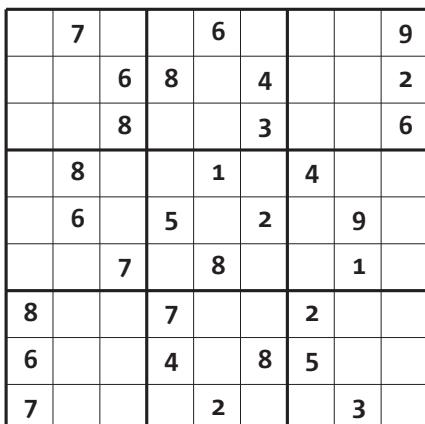
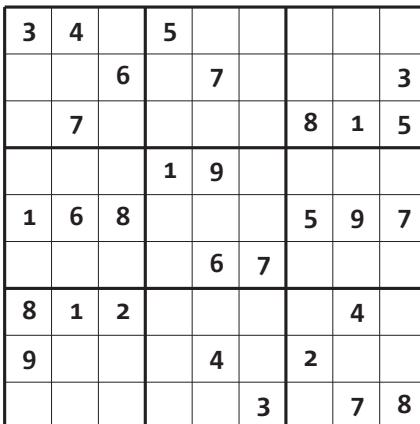
**♉ Taurus | April 21-May 19.**  
Follow simple rules. Nurture relationships by showing patience and tolerance. Positive alterations will improve your emotional outlook.

**♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20.**  
Pretending to be able to do something that's out of your range will backfire. Honesty will lead to solutions and the chance to learn something valuable.

**♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22.**  
Take on a challenge and show everyone how entertaining and creative you can be. Take time to socialize.

**♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22.**  
Step back and review your situation before you proceed. You will meet with opposition that must be handled with care.

**♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22.**  
Speak up, and you will capture the attention of someone interested in your concerns. Jealousy will surface among your peers and must be handled with caution. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

**Sudoku: Easy and hard****How to play**

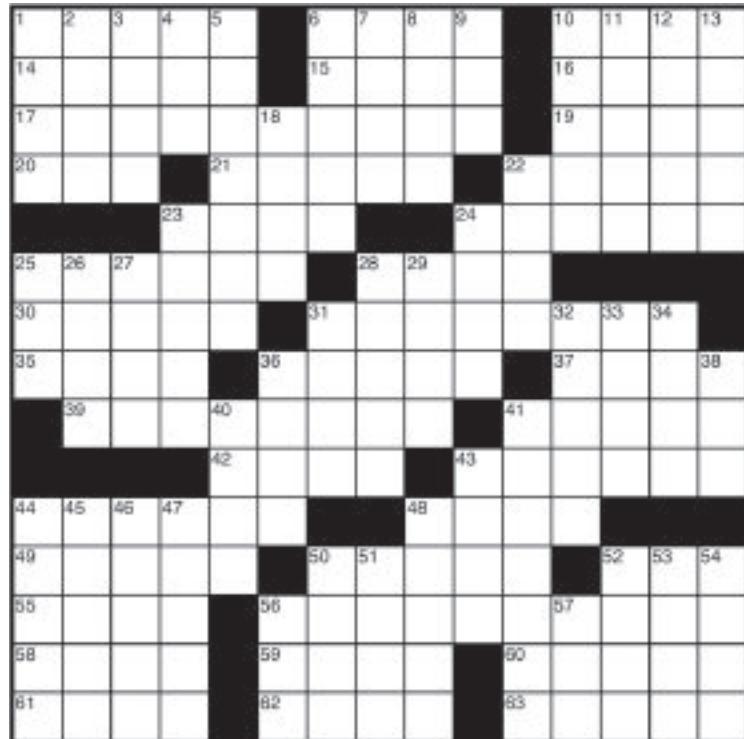
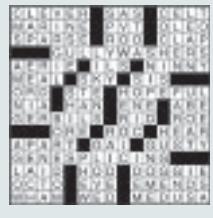
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

**Crossword****Across**

- 1 Written in the stars
- 6 Unisex garment
- 10 Larger part
- 14 Limber
- 15 Nadelman or Ducommun
- 16 Persia, today
- 17 Tortilla melt
- 19 Count tree rings
- 20 Downcast
- 21 Barge route
- 22 Alluvial fan
- 23 Floats like a cork
- 24 Greeted warmly
- 25 Some hose
- 28 Geog. region
- 30 High-school kids
- 31 Appealing one (hyph.)
- 35 Suspend
- 36 Festivals
- 37 Casually
- 39 Walked (2 wds.)
- 41 Links champ Sam —
- 42 Coarse file
- 43 Hears the alarm
- 44 Frontier
- 48 Cookie sheets
- 49 Accustom
- 50 Sentry
- 52 Rural addr.
- 55 Prom rental
- 56 Fluke (2 wds.)
- 58 Gray wolf

- 59 Ocean sighting
- 60 Usher's beat
- 61 Parka closer
- 62 Better late — never
- 63 Protected, as an estate
- Down**
- 1 Online info
- 2 Water, in Tijuana
- 3 Deadlocked
- 4 Overhead railways
- 5 Minor clergy
- 6 Ribs of a leaf
- 7 "Mack the Knife" singer
- 8 Window part
- 9 Herbal infusion
- 10 Waits patiently
- 11 Caspian Sea range
- 12 Espresso with milk
- 13 Work clay
- 18 Applies gently
- 22 Catastrophic
- 23 Small drum
- 24 — Kristofferson
- 25 Utmost degree
- 26 Uh-huh
- 27 TV host Jay —
- 28 Dutch export
- 29 Coup d'—
- 31 Heels
- 32 Carnation colors
- 33 — fixe

- 34 Pizzazz
- 36 Backpacker's load
- 38 Fabric meas.
- 40 Release
- 41 Flood stopper
- 43 Lean and sinewy
- 44 Invoices
- 45 Leek cousin
- 46 Carmen Miranda's dance
- 47 Slouch
- 48 Occupied
- 50 Talk effusively
- 51 USC rival
- 52 Take it easy
- 53 Chaucer offering
- 54 Used thrifly
- 56 Burning
- 57 Narrow inlet

**Weekend's answer****Letters****Respect the right to life**

looking ignorant. Do some research before making your accusations, because there indeed have been 18 government shutdowns since 1976, most occurring under Reagan and Carter. They've lasted anywhere from 1 to 21 days.

**MIKE BRADLEY, VIA EMAIL**

Major media outlets consistently ignore Respect Life Sunday every year.

It is truly saddening and unfair that the press has essentially "decided" that those who oppose abortion are simply "wrong" and that the matter is closed for further dialogue and debate. The pro-life movement deserves to be heard, and its message that all human life should be respected ought to be given a fair hearing.

**JEFFREY ESTANO, VIA EMAIL**

**Congress is doing its job****Re: 'Shut down the GOP lies' (Metro, Oct. 4-6)**

It's sad in this day and age with the Internet at our fingertips that letter writer Matthew Miller assumes the "conservative blogosphere" is lying about government shutdowns. A quick Google search would have prevented you from

Mr. Miller is obviously a victim of the dumbing-down of our school system, otherwise he would know that Congress' job is to enact bills and create budgets. If Americans knew about the ridiculousness of the ACA bill, they would have demanded it be defeated. With over 60 percent opposed and our president trying to raise borrowing limits rather than control spending to meet his demands, it is up to Congress to counter his far-left liberal ways. That is how our government works, with checks and balances.

**LEWIS CLABOUGH, VIA EMAIL**

**letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

**Mr. Consistency**

Gonzalez gets better with time

Falcons tight end Tony Gonzalez is primed for one of the best seasons of his career in his 17th season in the league.

Jets head coach Rex Ryan joked last week, "I wish he had retired." But Gonzalez's decision to play one more season gives them another legitimate threat on their offense.

"It's always huge for us; first and foremost, when you add a great player to your team, it makes you better," Falcons quarterback Matt Ryan said. "But beyond that, his personality in the locker room, his leadership, for young guys to see what it takes to be one of the best — I think that's huge for us. Seems to be getting better the longer he plays." KRISTIAN DYER

# Jets keeping an eye on ball, desperate Atlanta

**NFL.** It's the Falcons who come into tonight's prime-time matchup with a 1-3 record.

After a blowout loss versus the Titans last Sunday, the Jets are hoping to avoid the same fate in Atlanta.

The Falcons are struggling at 1-3 and are in must-win mode if they have any chance of making the playoffs.

We look at three storylines to watch tonight (8:30 p.m., ESPN):

**1 Ball security**

A week removed from rookie quarterback Geno Smith's two-interceptions and two-fumbles loss against the Titans, the Jets will have to limit turning the ball over against a po-



Atlanta traded up to get Julio Jones in the 2011 draft — and it's paying off. / GETTY IMAGES

tent Falcons offense. The defense is good enough to keep them in this game if they can hold onto the ball and play a game of field position.

**2 Skinny on Goodson**

After a four-week suspension due to an offseason arrest and pend-

ing drug and gun charges, Mike Goodson returns to the Jets this week. While he may not do much on the field — as he's still getting into football shape — he will surely help if he's activated.

**3 Jones es en fuego**

There may not be a

better receiver in the NFL right now than Julio Jones. Jones is on pace for 1,924 receiving yards, which would be the second-highest single-season tally in the history of the NFL.

KRISTIAN DYER  
sports@metro.us

# 3

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Find video and recap of yesterday's Eagles-Giants game at: Metro.us/sports.

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# Manning in historic funk

**NFL.** The Giants are off to an all-time bad start and surprisingly, their QB is a large part of the reason why.

The Giants are one of the league's most historic teams, but this could be a year they make history for all the wrong reasons.

Following yesterday's agonizing 36-21 defeat to the Eagles, the Giants have done something no other Big Blue squad has done in a non-strike season since 1979: start winless after five games.

The Giants are so bad that not even one of the best coach-quarterback tandems in recent memory can stave off the plethora of miscues that have cost the team wins. Of course, when the tandem is also a major reason why the team can't get out of its own way, it shows the plight of the franchise.

Eli Manning cost the Giants 45 yards' worth of penalties with three intentional grounding calls, including one that pushed the Giants out of field-goal range. So far this season, the two-time Super Bowl MVP has looked like a



Eli Manning was harassed by the Eagles defensive line all game, forcing three intentional grounding penalties. / GETTY IMAGES

## Quoted

**"You don't get a lot of second chances in this league, so you have to capitalize on them when they come by. You can have a great scheme but it's about execution."**

Eli Manning, Giants quarterback

player who shouldn't even be in the league. But it doesn't help that the Giants offensive line has been atrocious this season.

"I honestly believe that he's trying so hard that he's almost putting too much on himself. He keeps it all pretty much inside — and I'm not making excuses — but the [intentional grounding] penalties looked so bad. He's way too good a player to have these types of things

happen," said head coach Tom Coughlin. "I felt that the first [two drives of the second half] were good. But then we started giving away the ball."

Manning hinted the "circumstances" around him are contributing to his horrid start. The fact that the Giants could only muster 53 yards on 17 carries showed just how much is heaped on the quarterback's plate.

"We're throwing the

ball a lot because we're low on running backs," Manning said. "It's tough. You just have to play to the circumstances of the game. Sometimes you're scrambling around and making plays, and sometimes you don't. It's hard to sometimes turn off that competitive edge and play smart."

TONY WILLIAMS  
sports@metro.us

## What went wrong ...

### 1 Lost chances

The Giants missed opportunities galore in the game, starting with missed blocks on passing plays when Manning had receivers open downfield. Running back David Wilson, who didn't return after halftime due to a neck injury, was mainly a spectator even when he was in the game because of his ineffective pass blocking. Not even the Vick injury could help the Giants' cause, as Foles was efficient in relief.

### 2 Line of no return

Heading into the season, the Giants offensive line was a major question mark due to age, injury and ability at key spots. But after five weeks of watching Manning run for his life and failing to open up running lanes for any of the tailbacks, this unit may end up being historically bad.

### 3 Fading away

The Giants running game may be the worst in the league, which is certainly aiding Manning's awful season. Once Wilson went out with an injury, things got ugly. Brandon Jacobs' best days are behind him if his 37 yards rushing are any indication. Da'Rel Scott was recently released, meaning the only 100-percent healthy body behind Jacobs is rookie Michael Cox — who was the second-to-last pick in the draft.

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